

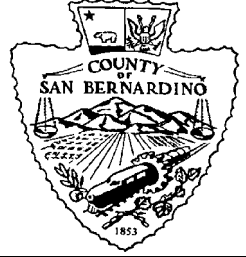
Department of Veterans Affairs

Office Locations:

175 W. Fifth Street, Second Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0470 (909) 387-5516

13260 Central Avenue, Second Floor, Chino, CA 91710-4165 (909) 465-5241

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Burial Benefits

What is a VA Burial Allowance?

A VA Burial Allowance is a partial reimbursement of an eligible veteran's burial and funeral costs. When the cause of death is not service-related, the reimbursement is generally described as two payments: (1) a burial and funeral expense allowance, and (2) a plot interment allowance.

Who is Eligible?

You may be eligible for a VA burial allowance if:

- you paid for a veteran's burial or funeral, **AND**
- you have not been reimbursed by another government agency or some other source, such as the deceased veteran's employer, **AND**
- the veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

In addition, at least one of the following conditions must be met:

- the veteran died because of a service-related disability, **OR**
- the veteran was getting VA pension or compensation at the time of death, **OR**
- the veteran was entitled to receive VA pension or compensation but decided not to reduce his/her military retirement or disability pay, **OR**
- the veteran died in a VA hospital or while in a nursing home under VA contract.

How Much Does VA Pay?

Service-related death - VA will pay up to \$2,000 toward burial expenses. If the veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of moving the deceased may be reimbursed.

Non service-related death - VA will pay up to \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses, and a \$300 plot interment allowance. If the death happened while the veteran was in a VA hospital or under contracted nursing home care, the cost of moving the deceased may be reimbursed.

What the VA Cannot Do

- Gravesites in a National Cemetery can not be reserved.
- The National Cemeteries, normally do not conduct burials on weekends.
- National Cemeteries can not place headstones or markers from outside sources.
- The National Cemetery system cannot enter into contracts or agreements with local Funeral Directors or Mortuaries.
- The National Cemetery Administration cannot endorse local mortuaries or offer any discounts through a local Funeral Director or Mortuary.

- The veteran and/or family can purchase a prepaid burial plan through any organization of their choice. No Funeral Director or Mortuary can claim that they have any contract or agreement with the National Cemetery Administration.

Please report any questionable claims or advertisements to your local VA or National Cemetery Office.

Related Benefits

Burial in VA National Cemeteries
Presidential Memorial Certificates

Headstones and Markers
Burial Flags

What Do I Need To Apply ?

Veterans Service Representatives are available to assist you with burial, survivors' or to discuss any veterans' benefit with you. You should bring proof of the veteran's military service (discharge or DD 214), a death certificate, and copies of funeral/burial contracts and receipts for expenses paid by you.

How Do I Get Help Or More Information?

Veterans Service Representatives are available to discuss this or any veterans' issue with you.

Veterans Service Representatives are available to discuss claims or any veterans' issues with you. Call your closest office for the nearest location to you:

Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Victorville: (760) 843-2790 San Bernardino: (909) 387-5516 Chino: (909) 465-5241

Part time offices in: Barstow, Yucca Valley and 29 Palms.